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GOVERNOR PATRICK APPOINTS THOMAS STEPHENS TO TURNPIKE AUTHORITY BOARD

MTA Continues to Move Forward with New Leadership

BOSTON - Tuesday, August 21, 2007 - Governor Deval Patrick today announced the appointment of business executive Thomas Stephens to the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority (MTA) Board of Directors. Stephens fills the seat recently vacated by John Moscardelli.

"Thomas brings a tremendous amount of energy, talent and financial expertise to the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority board," said Governor Patrick. "His presence will add a valuable business and financial perspective to board deliberations."

Stephens, a Boston resident, is Director of Annuity Sales for MetLife, Inc. In his current role he oversees all marketing and sales activity for variable, fixed and immediate annuities, in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Maine, which exceeds \$500 million. He earned a Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Mathematics from Hampton University in Virginia and Northeastern University in Boston respectively. Prior to his 15-year career in the financial services field, he was a mathematics instructor at Northeastern.

"I appreciate the great responsibility that Governor Patrick has entrusted in me with this appointment," Stephens said. "I am committed to working with Secretary Cohen and my fellow board members to ensure that the MTA is managed in an open and responsive manner that will benefit the citizens who depend on it on a daily basis."

"The Turnpike board will surely benefit from Mr. Stephens' fiscal expertise and skill as we work to place the authority on a firm financial footing," said state Transportation Secretary Bernard Cohen. "I look forward to working with him and the rest of the board toward that goal."

Stephens serves on the Board of Trustees of Newbury College and is the past Chairman and President of Greater Boston Financial Services Professionals. He also serves as Co-director and math instructor for The Paul Robeson Institute, a Saturday academy for boys ages 8-18.

Stephens and his fellow recently-appointed board member Michael Angelini will attend their first MTA board meeting today

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